paddies) and a few use the leaves of the dapdap (Erythrina variegata L. var. orientalis (L.) Merr.) tree as greens. 222 262 Sometimes the blossoms of wild bananas are gathered, boiled, and eaten.

MUSHROOMS

Wild mushrooms, though not very plentiful, are 222 gathered by the barriofolk. Most people are fond of mushrooms, and consider them a delicacy. Individuals rarely make special searches for mushrooms; they watch for them when traveling in the mountains. Mushrooms are usually collected during the rainy season; they are found growing in bamboo groves, on dead logs, rotting banana or abaca stalks (often in saingina) and other shady places.[14]

Eleven different types of edible mushrooms (ohong) are gathered by the barriofolk: amamakol, libaya, kolukdop, layat, asha-an, kotmaya, ohong (a poisonous type is also known by the same name), talope, tangogtangog, layalaya and songadsongad. The most common varieties that grow near Caticugan

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[14] Few cases of fatal mushroom poisoning occur in the Philippines since the poisonous species rarely grow in the lowlands; they thrive best in cool places in the mountains. "It is a common belief in the Philippines that thunder and lightning have something to do with the spontaneous appearance of mushrooms. When thunder begins to rumble, especially during May or early June, at the start of the rainy season, young and old in rural communities rush out to the open fields and meadows to search for mushrooms." The general name for edible mushrooms in Tagalog is kabute, in Negros and Panay, ohong, and Leyte ulaping. Jose M. Mendoza, "Philippine Mushrooms." The Philippines Journal of Science, LXV, Nos. 1-2, (January-February, 1938), pp. 13-15. My collection of mushrooms for identification spoiled: for this reason the English or scientific names are not given. Mendoza's study did not list the Cebuano names for these mushrooms. [81] [146]

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Hipon, according to the barriofolk, are the young of the Tibiw, Manbot, Toghod and Ontangol.[15] Their eggs allegedly are washed to the sea during river floods or they may be laid near the river's mouth; when hatched the fingerlings swim upstream. Tibiw eggs are laid on river stones for the boys see them when fishing with goggles.

There are two types of Hipon: (1) a "fine type" (translucent) that average perhaps one-half an inch and (2) a "big type" that may be several inches long and is blacker than the "fine type." Barriofolk say the former type of Hipon start upstream first, "maybe they are guards" and the "big type" follows. The upstream migration begins about 45 days after Hipon appear at the river mouth. They run most plentifully during the latter part of the rainy season, especially from August to January. During the dry season the Hipon are said to run but they are very few in number. The first ta-an net seen in the Siaton River during my residence appeared in the latter part of July.

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From August to December the Hipon are reported to run twice a month, a statement that I verified. Each month they run three or four days after the "noon moon"

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[15] Herre and Umali, op. cit., p. 115, state Hipon are Goby fry (Family Gobiidae).

(i.e., the last quarter of the moon, often seen in the sky at noon), several days after the "dying moon" (himatayon) and two or three days after the full moon (subang). During the full moon, however, only the "fine type" are said to be caught. Examination of the types of Hipon caught during these runs did not bear out this folk-statement. Others said that in years when mushrooms are scarce Hipon are most plentiful. During a Hipon run several hundred people, from the poblacion and the barrios, can be seen catching the fish in the river; Caticugan is almost deserted during these runs.

Ta-an Nets

Ta-an nets are placed in shallow water near the banks or on sand bars of the Siaton River. Usually low walls of stone and palm leaves are built to make a channel that leads the water into the net. The net, tied to stakes driven into the river bed, is usually four or five feet long and two or three feet wide. The net opening faces downstream since the Hipon swim upstream. Fish pass into the first section of the net, over the front flap that is weighted with stones or sticks. This flap is weighted so it is only partly submerged, not touching the net bottom, but tied by strings at a five or ten degree angle. (See Plate XXXV, Detail B.)[1] This makes it impossible for fish, once they swim over the flap and into the first section of the net, to escape. Eventually they swim from the first section through the two small openings (galao) into the second section of the net;

[1] [this plate (p. 544) is missing -- Analyst]